



# TALBOT COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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January 26, 2021

State law<sup>1</sup> requires that election officials manually audit a sample of voted ballots. This audit must be performed after each general election.

The Talbot County Board of Elections will conduct the manual ballot audit of the 2020 General Election starting on Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 10:00 am. Snow date is set for Friday, February 19, 2021, if needed. This audit may take at least one day and will take place at the Talbot County Board of Elections warehouse, located at 28712 Glebe Road, Easton, MD 21601. Livestreaming will not be available. This audit is open to the public, and due to space constraints, public viewing must be scheduled ahead of time by contacting the Director at 410-770-8098. Social distancing guidelines will be adhered to, which will include limiting the number of people who can view the audit at one time, keeping any public viewers six feet apart from others, and requiring the use of masks indoors.

The Talbot County Board of Elections will manually tally a sample of votes cast for the Office of the President and Vice President and compare the results of the manual tally against the results from the voting system. This process will determine whether the voting system accurately counted ballots during the 2020 General Election.<sup>2</sup>

The State Board of Elections randomly selected the early voting center and election day vote center to be audited, and the Talbot County Board of Elections randomly selected the mail in and provisional ballots to be audited. Starting on *Wednesday, February 10, 2021*, the Talbot County Board of Elections will manually tally the votes for President and Vice President on:

1. 789 ballots cast on one scanning unit on the *1<sup>st</sup> day* of early voting at the Easton Firehouse Early Voting Center.
2. 560 ballots cast on election day at the St Michael's High School Vote Center.
3. 25 mail in ballots
4. 15 provisional ballots

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<sup>1</sup> See Election Law Article, §11-309 of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*. This requirement introduced as House Bill 1278 of the 2018 Legislative Session and is reported as Chapter 523 of the 2018 Laws of Maryland.

<sup>2</sup> Before the 2020 General Election was certified, the State Board of Elections conducted an automated audit of **all** of the ballots cast in the 2020 General Election. The results of this audit confirmed the accuracy of the voting system. The results of the automated audit are at [https://elections.maryland.gov/voting\\_system/ballot\\_audit\\_plan.html](https://elections.maryland.gov/voting_system/ballot_audit_plan.html)